

REMARKS

In light of the above amendments and remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended for clarifying what is the claimed invention. Claims 1 and 10 are pending in this application.

Claims 1 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawano et al. (U.S. Patent 6,697,836).

The present claims now recite "means for transmitting to the authenticated user message arrival data when the removable memory is inserted into the terminal device currently being used by the user, wherein the message arrival data indicates arrival at the network server of message information addressed to an electronic mail address of the authenticated user after the response to the erasure request by the network server," "means for receiving a confirmation from the authenticated user requesting transmission, to the terminal device currently being used by the authenticated user, of the message information indicated by the message arrival data," and "wherein, in response to said authenticated user requesting the message information indicated by the message arrival data from the network server . . . , the message information indicated by the message arrival data is converted from the first data format to the second data format and transmitted to the second terminal device [currently being used by the authenticated user]." (Claims 1 and 10)

According to the claimed invention, transmission of the message arrival data provides to the authenticated user "information just notifying the arrival of the message" information, which is addressed to the electronic mail address of the user, at the network server after the network server

erased registration information for the user in response to an erasure request. (See specification, for example, at pg. 15, ln. 8-15, pg. 16, ln. 20-24; pg. 22, ln. 12-15). In addition, based on the transmitted message arrival data, the user can confirm, via a request to the network server, transmission from the network server, to the terminal currently being used by the user, of the message information addressed to the electronic address of the user which arrived at the network server after the erasure of the registration information for the user. (See specification, for example, at pg. 17, ln. 14-16; pg. 22, ln. 12-15; pg. 25, ln. 17- pg. 26, ln. 2). Thus, based on the user specification information and also the terminal device information, the network server can notify the user, using message arrival data, concerning message information, which is addressed to a single email address of the user and had arrived at the network server, after the user is authenticated as using a specific terminal device, such that the user can confirm whether to receive the message information itself from the network server at the specific terminal device. (See specification, for example, at page 41, ln. 2-6, 23-25; pg. 42, ln. 1 and 11-15).

Applicants respectfully assert that Kawano does not disclose transmitting message arrival data indicating message information addressed to the electronic mail address of the user and transmitting the indicated message information, following conversion to the format compatible with the terminal the user is currently using, in response to a request for the message information by the user, as required by the claimed invention. Although the cited portions of *Kawano* concern transmission of information from a server to a user of a client, nowhere do the applied portions of *Kawano* disclose the transmission of message arrival data to the user and the transmission of the converted message information, addressed to the email address of the user

and indicated by the message arrival data, in response to a request by the authenticated user at a terminal device, as required by the present claims.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Kawano fails to meet all of the recited limitations of the present invention, and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

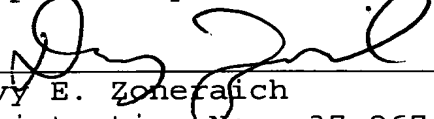
As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

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Respectfully submitted

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